THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) The following contract awarded to M/s. WMI Cranes Ltd., Bombay is awaiting completion as on 1-9-1987.

Company	For Supply of	In collaboration with
Neyveli Lignite Corporation	2 Nos. of 20000 tonnes per hour capacity spreaders for the second mine expansion project.	MAN, FRG

The performance of the above contract by MAN/WMI is proceeding as per schedule.

(c) Does not arise.

Shortage of coal in Punjab

3137. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are aware that a large number of industries in the Punjab State have been critically affected due to shortage of coal in the State;

(b) whether the Punjab Government has time and again urged the Central Government to provide sufficient quantum of coal to the State Government; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c) References have been received from the Government of Punjab in the matter of coal supplies to the State.

Coal despatches to Punjab has been increasing over years as would be seen from the following table:

(In lakh tonnes)

Year	Core Sector			Non-core Sector			Dump	Soft Coke	Hard Coke	Total
	Power	Fertilizer	Paper	Textile Rayon	BRK & Other					
1984-85 . .	21·98	3·72	0·19	0·17	6·60		0·33	0 27	0·61	33·78
1985-86 . .	30·37	5·95	0·15	0·26	10·39		0·40	0 26	0 82	48 60
1986-87 . .	36·10	4·80	0·27	0·39	11·08		0 14	0 18	0 70	53·58
1987-88 . .	15·51	2·20	0·10	0·16	4·50		0·14	0 04	0 37	23 02

(April-September)

Coal India is also operating a number of stockyards in the State of Punjab. Due to better availability in these stockyards, additional offers were made to the State and Central sponsoring Authorities for release of coal to the industrial buyers of the State to meet exigency